



FEB 19 2004

REQUEST**FOR****CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,

Provides for continued examination of a utility or plant

Application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

02-20-04

RCG/3761

Application Number: 10/003,915

Filing Date: November 2, 2001

First Named Inventor: Anthony J. Mauro

Group Art Unit: 3761

Examiner Name: Catharine L. Anderson

Attorney Docket Number: 460.2115USU

CUSTOMER NO.: 27623

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 153 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (August 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (March 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114a. **XXX** Previously submittedi. **XXX** Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 previously filed on August 6, 2003 (any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____iii. Other _____b. Enclosedi. Amendment/Replyii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) and PTO-1449iv. Other _____**2. Miscellaneous**a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required)b. Other _____**3. Fees** The RCE fee Under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed.a. X The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. **01-0467**.i. X RCE fee (\$770.00) required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e)ii. X Extension of Time fee (\$110.00) (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)iii. Other _____b. X Check in the amount of \$880.00 enclosedc. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

February 19, 2004

Date of Signature

02/23/2004 JADD01 00000089 10003915

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CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Certificate No. EV 383028149 US, service under 37 CFR §1.10 and is addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 19, 2004.

Mary R. Charles

(Typed name of person mailing paper)

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